HF Happenings 387

January 2010

HF Happenings via Yahoo Groups HF_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

South African Radio League   Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
1925 - 2010
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

No ICASA Account until Mid January 2010

ICASA confirmed that renewals for licenses will only be mailed during the second week in January. Although accounts are payable before 31 January each year, ICASA said it will not take action until the end of February.

The fee for an amateur radio license for 2010 will remain at R27.

If you insist in paying the 2010 fee before receiving an invoice, please ensure that your call sign and license number is stated in the electronic or post office payment. Every year ICASA receives payments, which cannot be allocated to the correct account, as this vital information is not submitted with the payment.

Make Your Input into the SARL Strategy for 2010

In early March 2010, the SARL Council and 2010 Council nominees will meet at the National Amateur Radio Centre to develop the strategy and activities for 2010 and 2011. The strategy plan will be tabled at the National Convention and Annual General meeting to be held Port Elizabeth from 23 - 25 April.

You have an opportunity to make input to what the SARL should be focussing on. Join SARL President, Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT, on the next President's net to be held Sunday 31 January 2010 at 19:30 CAT. Make a note of the date and discuss your ideas with fellow amateurs and at your next club meeting.

PEARS HF QSO Party

The Port Elizabeth ARS has released the results of the 2009 PEARS HF QSO Party. There were ZS, ZR and DX entries, but no ZU entries!

Unlimited Category
1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 162 pts
2nd Andre le Roux, ZS2AL 110 pts
3rd Otto van Rooyen, ZS2Q 97 pts
4th JCR le Roux, ZS1CF 90 pts
5th Jaco le Roux, ZS3JLR 67 pts
6th Romeo Nardini, ZS6ARQ 66 pts
7th Johan van Aarde, ZS2I, 58 pts
8th DP Jones, ZS5DJ, 57 pts

January 2010

ZS10WCS operated by the Vrystaat ARC

1 New Year's Day, start of 2010 CQ DX Marathon
2/3 ARRL RTTY roundup
9/10 Mongolian RTTY DX contest; Hunting Lions in the Air
13 Schools open
15 - 17 PEARS VHF/UHF Contest
16/17 Hungarian DX contest
23 SMT course, Cape Town
24 BACAR launch, Western Cape
27 SARL Club Phone Contest
29-31 CQ WW 160 m CW contest
31 SARL Presidents Net
31 Closing date AGM Motions

Did you tell anyone about amateur radio this week?

9th Marius Preston, ZS4MP/5, 44 pts
10th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 42 pts

Restricted Category
Johan Visagie, ZR4LP/6, 60 pts
Petrus Delport, ZR6BVS, 10 pts

DX Category
Andy Cory, 3DA0TM, 66 pts

Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to all those who took part.

New Club for Morse Code Enthusiasts

A new club has been formed among Amateur Radio operators who are Morse Code (CW) enthusiasts. It is called The CW Operators' Club (CWops). CWops encourages the use of CW in Amateur communications, and it promotes goodwill among Amateurs around the world by planned CW activities. CWops is international in scope, membership and management. Its focus is the use of CW, whether for contesting, DXing or rag chewing. Moreover, it promotes every form of sending - if it is CW, CWops supports it!

For further information, go to www.cwops.org. There you will find everything that you might want to know about CWops, including our bylaws and articles of incorporation, our planned activities, an explanation of how to become a member, and a list of current members.

Jim Talens, N3JT, Secretary, CWops

[Thanks Vidi, ZS1EL]

DX from Africa

Senegal, 6W. Operators Ron, PA3EWP and Tom, GM4FDM will team up again, but this time from the Le Calao rental shack in the region of Somone about 70 km south of Dakar in Senegal for 2 weeks between 26 January and 9 February. Both operators have their license and will sign 6W/home call.

Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres, but operations will be concentrated on CW on the lower bands. Antennas are a Titanex vertical for 160 and 80 m, 4-square for 40 m, verticals for 30 and 17 m and monobanders are available for 20, 15 and 10 m. They "may" also be active on 6 metres using a K3 radio and a 5 element yagi. In addition, some RTTY operations are expected from Tom. The operators will attempt to be on the air during the sunrise/sunset for USA and Japan and hope that the path to Europe will not prove too troublesome. Tom will attempt to up-load ONLY his logs to LoTW if the Internet is available, if not, they will be submitted immediately upon his return home. QSL 6W/PA3EWP via PA7FM. QSL 6W/GM4FDM via GM4FDM, direct or by the Bureau and LoTW.

Djibouti, J2. Darko, E70A, who has been operating as J28OO since November 2007, has apparently changed his call sign. He is now signing J28AA. He has operated CW, SSB and RTTY on 80 - 10 metres. However, his activity lately has been mainly CW on 80, 40 and 20 metres. QSL via his QSL Manager K2PF, direct or LoTW.

Did you tell anyone about amateur radio this week?

9G5TT and 9G5XX QSL Status. Silvano, I2YSB, reports that all of the QSLs received for 9G5TT and 9G5XX have been sent/answered as of 2 January. For any inquires, you can send E-mail to i2ysb@i2ysb.com. You can check the status of your QSL or to see if you are in the log at www.i2ysb.com/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=43.

Special Event Stations

2010 CQ DX Marathon. Now that the 2009 CQ DX Marathon has ended, the 2010 CQ DX Marathon has begun as of 00:00 UTC on 1 January, and will run until 23:59 UTC 31 December 2010. The goal is to work as many countries and CQ zones as possible at least once during the 2010 calendar year. Complete details, rules and score sheets are available at http://www.dxmarathon.com

2010 CDXC Challenge. The aim of the "2010 Clipperton DX Club Challenge" is to contact as many DXCC entities as possible on the different bands and on the different modes over the duration of the challenge. The challenge is opened to all radio amateurs, member of the CDXC or not.

The challenge started at 00:00 UTC on 1 January 2010 and will last until 23:59 UTC Sunday 29 August. Three categories are available:
Bands HF: - Mixed Mode All HF bands (CW, SSB, Digi)
Band 6 m: - Mixed 6 m (CW, SSB, Digi)
Band 2 m: - Mixed 2 m (CW, SSB, Digi)

Complete details are available on the CDXC Web page at http://www.cdxc.org

2010 Olympic Winter Games (Special Canadian Prefixes). The following prefixes will be available for use in Canada from 1 February to 31 March to commemorate the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in British Columbia. Canadian stations with a VA prefix can use VG, VY can use XK, VO can use XJ and VE can use VX.

Known announced activities are:
VX9NC - VE9NC will operate during that time using primarily digital modes on all HF bands. QSL via his home call sign.
VG7G - VE7XS will be operating during this time. (No other details known.)
VG7W - VE7OM will be operating as VG7W between now and 31 January. (No other details known.)

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 4 to 11 January 2010.

RSGB 80 m CW Club Championship
20:00 - 21:30 UTC 4 January
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST and Serial No
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 11 January 2010

Upload log at: http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/r80mcc.shtml

ARS Spartan Sprint
02:00 - 04:00 UTC 5 January
Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Skinny; Tubby
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and Power
Work stations: Once per band
Submit logs by: 7 January 2010
E-mail logs to: spartansprint[at]yahoo[dot]com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://adventure-ra-dio.org/wiki/index.php?title=Spartan_Sprint_Rules

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 8 January
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Dupes allowed after at least one intervening QSO
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 10 January 2010
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

PODXS 070 Club PSKFest
00:00 - 24:00 UTC 9 January
Mode: PSK31
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: QRP Single Band; QRP Multiband; Low Power; Medium Power
Max operating hours: 24 hours

Max power: Medium Power: 100 watts; Low Power: 50 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province and country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point/QSO
Multipliers: States, provinces and countries, once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 9 February 2010
E-mail logs to: jbudzowski[at]verizon[dot]net
Mail logs to: Jay Budzowski, 070 Club PSKFest, 109 S. Northview Ave., New Castle, PA 16102-1633, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.podxs070.com/pskfest

Hunting Lions in the Air Contest
00:00 UTC 9 January to 24:00 UTC 10 January
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital, Echolink
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op; Multi-Single; SWL; Internet
Max operating hours: 48 hours
Exchange: Lions Club: RS(T), Serial No, Op Name, Club Name and District No; non-Lions Club: RS(T) and Serial No
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each Lions, Leo or Lioness club, once only
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 28 February 2010
E-mail logs to: lions[at]vsnl[dot]net
Mail logs to: The HLITA Contest Committee, Lions Club of Bangalore North, C/O Lion Ajoy - VU2JHM, # 9/1, Kshitija, Opp Big Bazaar, 5-Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560003, India
Find rules at:
http://lionshuntingintheair.lionwap.org/

Mongolian RTTY DX Contest
00:00 - 24:00 UTC 9 January
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op (Low/High); Multi-Single; SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts

Exchange: RS(T) and CQ Zone

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 0 points per QSO between JT stations; 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each DXCC country (except JT) once per band; Each JT station once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 28 February 2010

E-mail logs to: jtdxrtty[at]gmail[dot]com

Mail logs to: Mongolian RTTY DX Contest, PO Box 830, Ulaanbaatar-24, Mongolia

Find rules at: http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/mongoliandxrtty2010.pdf

MI QRP January CW Contest

12:00 UTC 9 January to 23:59 UTC 10 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 m

Classes: 250 mW; 250 mW – 1 W; 1 – 5 W; >5 W

Exchange: Members: RST, state, province or country and Membership No; non-Members: RST, state, province or country and power output

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with members; 2 points per QSO with non-member W/VE stations; 4 points per QSO with non-member DX stations

Multipliers: Each state, province or country, once per band

Bonus: multiply total points by 1.25 if xmtr or receiver is homebrew

Bonus: multiply total points by 1.5 if both xmtr and receiver are homebrew

Score Calculation: Total score = bonus multiplier x total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 9 February 2010

E-mail logs to: n8xx[at]arrl[dot]net

Mail logs to: Hank Greeb, N8XX, 5727 11 Mile Rd. NE, Rockford, MI 49341, USA

Find rules at: http://www.qsl.net/miqrpclub/contest.html

WW PMC Contest

12:00 UTC 9 January to 12:00 UTC 10 January

Mode: CW and SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op – CW, SSB or Mixed - Peace Messenger City or World – QRP, Low or High; Multi-Op – CW, SSB or Mixed - Peace Messenger City or World

Exchange: PMC: RS(T) and PMC abbreviation; World: RS(T) and CQ Zone

Work stations: Once per mode per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each PMC once per mode per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 9 February 2010

E-mail logs to: pmc[at]s59dcd[dot]si

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.s59dcd.si/english/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=72&Itemid=114

Midwinter CW Contest

14:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op YL; Single Op OM; Single Op SWL

Max operating hours: 6 hours

Exchange: YLs: RST and Serial No (beginning with 2001); OMs: RST and Serial No (beginning with 001)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: QSO with YL: 5 points; QSO with OM: 3 points; QSO with PI4YLC: 15 points; OM-to-OM QSO: 0 points

Multipliers: DXCC countries once only

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 15 February 2010

E-mail logs to: jckoekkoek[at]home[dot]nl

Did you tell anyone about amateur radio this week?

Mail logs to: PA3GQG, Contest Manager Midwinter Contest, Keulenheide 1, 6373 AP Landgraaf, The Netherlands
Find rules at:
http://www.qsl.net/pi4ylc/Engels/midwinter%20contest.htm

North American CW QSO Party
18:00 UTC 9 January to 06:00 UTC 10 January
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op – QRP or Low; Multi-Two - Low
Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours; Multi-Two: 12 hours
Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23 January 2010
E-mail logs to: (see rules, web upload preferred)
Upload log at:
http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplogsubmit.php
Mail logs to: Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, 4225 Farmdale Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php

SKCC Weekend Sprint
00:00 - 24:00 UTC 10 January
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 m
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST, Name, state, province or country and SKCC No or "NONE"
Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Bonus Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 15 January 2010
Post log summary at:
http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/wes-submit.html
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/

NRAU-Baltic CW Contest
06:30 – 08:30 UTC 10 January
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 and 40 m
Classes: Single Op Only
Exchange: RST, serial no and 2-letter region
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO
Multipliers: Each region, once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 31 January 2010
E-mail logs to: sm3cer[at]ssa[dot]se
Mail logs to: NRAU-Baltic Contest, Jan-Eric Rehn, Finstavagen 26, 7 tr., SE-863 31 Sundsbruk, Sweden
Find rules at:
http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/nrau.htm

Midwinter Phone Contest
08:00 - 14:00 UTC 10 January
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op YL; Single Op OM; Single Op SWL
Max operating hours: 6 hours
Exchange: YLs: RS and Serial No (beginning with 2001); OMs: RS and Serial No (beginning with 001)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: QSO with YL: 5 points; QSO with OM: 3 points; QSO with PI4YLC: 15 points; OM-to-OM QSO: 0 points
Multipliers: DXCC countries once only

Did you tell anyone about amateur radio this week?

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 February 2010
E-mail logs to: jckoekkoek[at]home[dot]nl
Mail logs to: PA3GQG, Contest Manager Midwinter Contest, Keulenheide 1, 6373 AP Landgraaf, The Netherlands
Find rules at:
http://www.qsl.net/pi4ylc/Engels/midwinter %20contest.htm

NRAU-Baltic SSB Contest
09:00 - 11:00 UTC 10 January
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80 and 40 m
Classes: Single Op Only
Exchange: RS, serial no and 2-letter region
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO
Multipliers: Each region, once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 31 January 2010
E-mail logs to: sm3cer[at]ssa[dot]se
Mail logs to: NRAU-Baltic Contest, Jan-Eric Rehn, Finstavagen 26, 7 tr., SE-863 31 Sundsbruk, Sweden

Find rules at:
http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/nrau.htm

DARC 10-Metre Contest
09:00 – 10:59 UTC 10 January
Mode: CW and SSB
Bands: 10 m Only
Classes: DL Single Op CW – Low or High; DL Single Op Mixed – Low or High; non-DL Single Op CW; non-DL Single Op Mixed
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W
Exchange: DL: RS(T), QSO No and DOK; non-DL: RS(T) and QSO No
Work stations: Once only
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each WAE/DXCC country once; Each DOK once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 25 January 2010
E-mail logs to: 10m[at]dxhf[dot]darc[dot]de
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/xgdczr.htm

Next Week's Contests

RSGB 80 m SSB Club Championship, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 13 January
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 15 January
LZ Open Contest, 00:00 - 06:00 UTC 16 January
Hungarian DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 16 January to 11:59 UTC 17 January
North American SSB QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 16 January to 06:00 UTC 17 January
Feld Hell Sprint, 16:00 - 18:00 UTC 17 January
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 18 January

This week in History

1901 Commonwealth of Australia is proclaimed.
1902 N. Stubblefield, USA, demonstrates his wireless telephone.
1952 First transistor hearing aid marketed in the USA.
[IRTSNews]

HA-DX contest

Dear Radio amateur OM,

Did you tell anyone about amateur radio this week?

On behalf of the contest committee of HA-DX contest I would like to remind you that the next HA-DX contest is going to be organized between 16th January 1200 GMT and 17th January 2010 1159 GMT.

We ask you to take part in the contest, propagate and popularize the contest among your radio amateur friends.

The most important issues regarding the contest:

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20,15 and 10 m.

Mode: CW and SSB.

Contest exchanges for non HA stations: RST + serial number from 001. HA stations send their county abbreviations.

Cabrillo logs can be sent to hadx@mrasz.axelero.net as attachment or can be submitted on the contest home page: http://www.ha-dx.com

The e-mail address above is only for submission of Cabrillo logs, if you have any questions or remarks please send it to contestmanager@mrasz.axelero.net

If someone cannot create a Cabrillo log he/she also can type the QSOs into a handy form on the home page.

Please publish and popularize this information among your radio amateur friends.

On behalf of the contest committee:

HA1AH, Tibor Finta

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, Q-News, the RSGB News, Maurice, F5NQL, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

Did you tell anyone about amateur radio this week?